

Christian



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RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

From the London Jewish Expositor.

Account of the providential escape of Mr. Wolff, during the earthquake in Syria.

Alexandria, Oct. 1822.

Dear Friend,—The Austrian, Danish, Russian, and Prussian Consul-Generals, who are Jews, visited me often, (while at Aleppo) as did several hundred of the most learned Jews of Aleppo, so that it was necessary to place a guard at the entrance of the house to keep them in order, for Mussulmen, desirous to hear my arguments with the Jews, accompanied them. Several of their rabbies asked me what I believed Jesus of Nazareth was? I told them "The Son of God." They exclaimed, "We have neither seen nor heard it!" and I replied to them, "I have seen it, and I have heard it." Voices of other Jews present were heard, "The gentleman speaks the truth!" I have had opportunity of preaching to them several hours without having been interrupted by them.

I left Aleppo on the 3d of August, and arrived again at Antioch on the 5th, where I stopped till the 11th of August. John Barker, Esq. British Consul General of Aleppo, who was just there with his amiable family, told me that the Ansari, idolaters, as they are supposed to be, are continuing to read the New Testaments I presented to them. I distributed again some New Testaments in Persian and Arabic, left Antioch the 12th of August, and arrived in the village Jesia, near Lattachia. The heat induced me to the determination to sleep in the open field rather than accept the kind offer of Mahomed Agha, one of the Shechs of the Ansari, who invited me to sleep in his house, which was built of stone; and thus it was thy will, O Lord; blessed be thy name, Jesus Christ! possessed of glory and honour. As I firmly insisted to remain with my servant in the open field, the Shechs and all the other inhabitants of that village came to talk with me in Arabic; I told them that their brethren in Antiochia have accepted copies of the Gospel, and are reading them with anxiety. The Shech Mahomed Agha, desired me to give him likewise some copies, and I promised to comply with his wish next morning after my arrival in Lattachia: and thus we sat very comfortably together on the ground, drinking milk and smoking the pipe, and conversing; it was a great wind—calm at nine o'clock, and twenty minutes after, that very evening, "the Lord looked upon the earth, and it trembled!"—A terrible shock, first horizontal, and thirty-six vertical ones, accompanied by a noise like the thunder of cannons, proceeded out from the earth. I prayed, crying to Jesus my Lord, and the Ansari exclaimed, "Merciful Lord, Merciful Lord!" We first stood still upon one place, but we feared to stand still; we leaped about, and we feared to leap about; for the earth threatened every where to open her mouth and swallow us up. The falling of houses, the shrieks and lamentations of dying women and babes, who were plunged in a time of sixty seconds into an awful eternity, produced in us all the firm belief that the judgment day of the Lord is now coming! Mahomed Agha exclaim-

ed, "This is of the Lord!" The observation of that Ansari makes me believe that that sect are not idolaters, for I cannot suppose that such an observation, in such a terrible moment, could be hypocrisy. I felt then more than ever the force of the passage in the sacred writ, saying, "Ye mountains fall on us; ye hills cover us!" I can say, that I was the instrument in the Lord's hand, of saving the lives of many persons; for if I had accepted the offer of the Shech, and had entered their houses, we all were become victims of the terrible earthquake. The earthquake was, after the terrible shocks, felt repeatedly, every hour two and three, and often four times, through the whole night! I went the next day to Lattachia, but perceived that all the inhabitants were out of town, in the open field, having left behind their property, which was buried under the ruins of their houses. I saw many naked, they went not back to take their clothes; and I saw sucking children fainting away, for they drank the milk of terror. "Woe unto them that were with child, and to them that gave suck in that day!" I went first to see the Franks of that town, and then the Greeks; they were all with pale faces, and with tears in their eyes; and those, who received me on my first arrival at Lattachia with kind countenances, have been so taken up with sorrows, heaviness, and terrors, that the mother did not mind the cries of her babes! One hundred and fifty houses have been utterly destroyed, and some hundreds of persons lost their lives. It did not cost me much pains to induce as well Catholics as Greeks, to kneel down with me, and to pray to our Lord Jesus Christ. Even those prayed, who, in the time of peace and ease, almost the Saviour's benefits began unfaithfully to deny; but earthquakes often interrupted our prayers! I sent immediately several expresses to Antiochia, which cost me together eleven dollars, to learn what had become of Mr. John Barker and his family, for the news was arrived at Lattachia, that Antiochia, Swedia, Scanderoon and Aleppo, had been utterly destroyed, and this news has been true. I received answer from John Barker, and at the same time an express arrived which was sent to me by Benjamin Barker; John Barker, his wife, and little girl, Benjamin Barker, and all the European Christians of Aleppo have been saved by the grace of the Lord! John Barker was just going to bed when the shock took place; the wall of the room, and the stairs all gave way in a moment, and John Barker, and his wife, were precipitated on the ground and buried under the ruins, and thus carried out safely, only with some trifling scratches. Benjamin Barker has been seriously wounded, but is now cured—but all the towns, villages and cottages, twenty leagues around Aleppo, have been utterly destroyed; 40,000 of our fellow-creatures have lost their lives. The Jew Esdra de Picciotto, the Austrian Consul-General, lost his life, and was buried under his sixteen slain horses. At Aleppo, are 25,000 souls buried under dead horses, cats, and dogs! there have been 3,000 Jews at Aleppo; 2,500 of them became victims of the earthquake: their ancient synagogues, from the time of the second temple, have been utterly destroyed! Not one single house at Aleppo remained whole! Spirits of those rabbies! when I told you that Jesus was the Son of God, you exclaimed, "We have neither seen nor heard it!" Spirits of those rabbies, it seems to me, that you are now standing before me, and it seems to me that I hear you exclaiming, "We do now see it—we do now hear it—That Jesus is the Son of God!"—Many of those children who were designed to be sent to that my projected college, are now in another college—in the college of the other world!

I sat the 20th of August on the ground in the garden of the Greeks, and wrote a letter,—a terri-

ble earthquake took place again! Some days before my departure from Lattachia, a caravan of Turks arrived from Aleppo. I met them in the field. They were soldiers, Turkish soldiers. They asked me: "Are you in peace?"

I. In peace, praise be unto God, the Lord of the worlds!

Turks. Aleppo is gone, Aleppo is no more! And saying this, they began to beat their breast, and they lifted up their voice, and cried and wept, and exclaimed, "This was of the Lord, this was of the Lord!"

I desired Musa Elias, the British Agent of Lattachia, to furnish me with some copies of the Arabic New Testament, to distribute them among the poor and afflicted, but the whole stock has been buried under the ruins of his magazine, and nobody yet dares to enter the town to excavate their buried property. Poor Musa Elias, and many of the Europeans, have lost all their property. Shocks have been heard four and five times through forty days. What an awful instance of the power of God! I left Lattachia the 29th of August, and arrived at Cyprus the 4th of September. Mr. Vondiziano received me very kindly indeed. He is British Consul General of the island. He gave me a room in his house.

All the European Consuls, not one excepted, desired that that College, which I intended to establish at Aleppo, should be established at Cyprus. The prospectus was drawn out, signed by all the nine Consuls of Cyprus, and all the Europeans of Cyprus. Mr. Caprara, the Austrian Consul General of that island, and Mr. Neville, the Chancellor of the English Consulate, desire tracts and Bibles for distribution.

Two Greek priests, and their two servants, have been condemned to death, by suffering a thousand stripes, at the command of both the Governor of the island, and the general of the troops, and have been already put into prison. As they were not protected by the Consuls, no Consul thought it advisable to interfere. I asked first the English Consul, whether he had any objection to my going to the Governor and the General, to ask from them as a favour, the lives of the two priests and their servants. As the Consul had no objection, I went immediately to both Turks, i. e. the General and the Governor. I shewed to them my Firman, which the right Hon. Lord Strangford was so gracious as to procure for me from the Porte, and the letter of recommendation procured to me by Mr. Salt, from Mahomed Ali, Vice-King of Egypt. They complied with my wish, and both the Greek priests and their two servants were immediately set free. I myself went to the prison, and took them with me to the English Consulate.

Two noblemen of the Greek nation were condemned to death, before I arrived in that island. One of them was beheaded, and all his property confiscated; and the other saved his life by the exclamation: "There is God, and nothing but God, and Mahomed the Prophet of God"—he apostatized. The two boys of both, the one of them eleven years of age, and the other fourteen, ran the danger of being taken by the Turks, and of being educated in Mahomedan night. I took them with me, with the written consent and permission of their mothers, and the British Consul General, and the approbation of all the European Consuls, and all the European inhabitants of the island; they are now with me here in Alexandria; they cause to me much joy; they have talent, and I intend to send them to England, where they may be educated in science and vital Christianity, and be sent back as missionaries to their own nation; they read and write, and speak modern Greek, and understand the ancient, and they know a little Italian.

At Cyprus there are no Jews, and the reason is this: There have been a great many Jews in Cyprus, many hundred years ago, but it came in their mind to establish a new Palestine upon that island; they murdered in their fanaticism many thousands of the Gentile inhabitants, but were finally compelled to lay down their arms, and fly from that island.

I arrived at Alexandria the 4th of October, where I was received with a true brotherly cordiality by Mr. Salt, his lady and mother-in-law, and by Mr. Lee and his family; they were just at dinner; they invited me immediately to dine with them, and Mr. Salt delivered to me the letters which Mr. Drummond sent to him, in which I found a letter of my dear Mr. S. and Mrs. D. Mr. Salt promised to me to introduce me to his Royal Highness the Vice-King of Egypt, and he desired immediately Mr. Bogos to introduce me to that great personage. I was introduced to his Royal Highness the 7th of this month. His Royal Highness asked me to sit down at his right hand, and a cup of coffee was brought to me. As the etiquette demands to address him in the Turkish tongue, Mr. Bogos was my interpreter. I thanked his Royal Highness for the letter he gave to me before my departure for Syria, which letter I said to him, has not only been of great use to me in his own territory, but it was even highly respected by all the Governors throughout Syria. I told farther his Royal Highness, that his name and his glorious deeds, the battles he fought, and the Wachabites he subdued, are the general subjects about which the caravans sing, that his name is a sure and safe passport among the Arabs of the desert of Bagdad. He was exceedingly pleased with these accounts; he asked me how long I was absent from Jerusalem? I told farther his Royal Highness that I had projected the establishment of a College for the inhabitants of Aleppo, which was accepted with a heartfelt joy, but the earthquake rendered it impossible to bring it into execution there. I asked his Royal Highness whether he would permit to my friends, Henry Drummond, Esq. and John Bayford, Esq. and my other friends in England, to establish such a college in Bulaka, near Cairo? His Royal Highness replied—"I have not the least objection, and you may write to your friend that I permit it with the greatest pleasure." He told me that he had already begun to establish a little institution at Bulaka, which is under the inspection of Haggio Osman Nurreddin. I said that I have the pleasure of knowing Haggio Osman Nureddin, and I should be very glad if his Highness would send him over to England for some time. His Highness observed that he intended to do so some time or other.

The Vice-King of Egypt is much like Pope Pius VII., in his outward appearance—only of a stronger constitution.

No personal insult has taken place against me in Jerusalem; except that the Catholics have publicly preached against me; they accused me likewise to the governor, as one who desires to convert Turks. The governor did not listen to them, and remained firmly my friend. The letter he wrote to Henry Drummond, Esq. will convince you of it. Jews wrote to me after my departure, that I should return to Jerusalem. Greeks and Armenians, and many Catholics walked upon Sion, and in the valley of Jehoshaphat, and read the gospel, and exclaimed: "Truth! wonderful!" But you will have received at this time my journals. I have employed a man in the mountains, Jussuf Hawam by name, an old Maronite, at Sgorta, near Tripoly, to read the New Testament, in Arabic, with the boys; for which I promised him every month one dollar.

BURMAN MISSION.

"A particular relation of the American Baptist Mission to the Burman Empire, in a series of Letters, addressed to Joseph Butterworth, Esq. M. P. London, by Ann H. Judson." Washington City: Printed and Published by John S. Meehan, at the Mission Press. Pp. 315.

This book, which has just issued from the press, presents, in a neat duodecimo volume, a full detail of the interesting history of the Burman Mission. A large portion of the work consists of extracts from the official and private letters of the missionaries, woven together into a continuous narrative, by remarks from the pen of Mrs. Judson. These ex-

tracts will have the freshness of novelty to most readers; and aside from those parts which are original, Mrs. J. has performed an acceptable service to the Christian public, by collecting together these scattered details, and combining them into a well digested history. We doubt not that the book will have a wide circulation, and we hope that it will be instrumental in kindling in many bosoms, that ardent zeal which distinguishes its author. We copy the first letter, as a specimen of the work.—*Star*.

LETTER I.

Ship Amity, August, 1822.

MY DEAR SIR,

After such continued proofs of your affectionate regard, and kind concern in my welfare, it would, indeed, be the height of ingratitude, should I longer delay to comply with the request, so often made, to write you a particular and connected account of the origin, progress, and success of the American Baptist Mission to the Burman empire.

My present state of convalescence, together with freedom from interruptions during my passage to America, I am happy to say, allows the gratification of my feelings in complying with your wishes; and, though an employment of this nature will have a tendency to refresh my mind with scenes of trial, the very recital of which is appalling to human nature, it will, at the same time, recall to my recollection the tender mercies of our heavenly Father, whose unseen hand has supported, sustained, and delivered, when no created arm could succour, and whose loving kindness has been richly experienced in the very storms of adversity. To the honour of Divine grace would I record it, that we have never encountered trials greater than we have been enabled to bear, and a way for escape from imminent danger and peril has always been provided.

Previous to a personal relation, a slight sketch of the Burman empire, its geographical situation, government, and some of the principal traits in the character of its inhabitants, may not be uninteresting.

This empire comprises the former kingdoms of Arrakan, Ava, and Pegue, whose sovereigns have been displaced by the celebrated Alompra, the founder of the present dynasty, or by his successors. This, and some adjacent countries, have sometimes been termed Indo-Chinese nations, as situated between India proper and the empire of China. The empire of Burmah, in its present state, is about 1200 miles in length, and 3 or 900 in its broadest part. It extends from the 9th to the 28th degree of North latitude, and from the 91st to the 108th of East longitude; and contains a population estimated at about nineteen millions. The northern part of the country is mountainous; but the plains and valleys, situated more southerly, are very fertile. The climate is considered salubrious, and the natives are remarkably healthy and vigorous. The government is strictly monarchical.—The emperor is absolute sovereign, and is regarded as the sole lord and proprietor of life and property in his dominions; and, without the concurrence of any, his word is irresistible law. Four private ministers of state, (called atwenwoon) and four public ministers of state, (woongyee) are the organs of administration. The latter compose the supreme court of the empire, (tlowtdau) in the name of which all imperial edicts are issued.

The Burman empire is divided into districts, each of which is governed by a viceroy, (myoo-woon) and a court (yongdau.) The district courts are composed of a president, (yawoon) chief magistrate, (sittkai) collectors of the port, (akoukwoon) auditors, (narkandau) and secretaries, (saragyee.)

The members of the district courts, and the wives, relations, and favourites of the viceroys, have also the privilege of holding private courts, and of deciding petty causes, subject to appeal to higher authority.

The Burmans are boodhists, or a nation of atheists. They believe that existence involves in itself the principles of misery and destruction. Consequently there is no eternal God. The whole universe, say they, is only destruction and reproduction. It therefore becomes a wise man to raise his desires above all things that exist, and aspire to Nighan, the state where there is no existence. Re-

wards and punishments follow meritorious and sinful acts, agreeably to the nature of things. Gaudama, their last Boodh, or deity, in consequence of meritorious acts, arrived at that state of perfection, which made him deserving of annihilation, the supreme good. His instructions are still in force, and will continue to the appearance of the next deity, who is supposed now to exist somewhere in embryo, and who, when he appears, as the most perfect of all beings, will introduce a new dispensation. The boodhist system of morality is pure, though it is destitute of power to produce purity of life in those who profess it.

The Burmans are a lively, industrious, and energetic race of people, and farther advanced in civilization than most of the eastern nations. They are frank and candid, and destitute of that pusillanimity which characterizes the Hindoos; and of that revengeful malignity which is a leading trait in the Malay character. Some of their men are powerful logicians, and take delight in investigating new subjects. Their books are numerous; some of them written in the most flowing, beautiful style; and much ingenuity is manifested in the construction of their stories.

All the boys in the empire are taught by the priests, who are dependant for their support on the contributions of the people; but no attention is given to female education, excepting in a few instances in the higher classes of society.

From the above observations, my dear Sir, you may form some idea of the Burmans; but, of the sanguinary nature of their government, prudential reasons urge my silence.

Still hoping for an interest in your prayers, I remain, my dear Sir,

Very affectionately and respectfully,

A. H. J.

From the Georgia Missionary.

BAPTIST CREEK MISSION.

A few days since, the mission family destined for Tuckee Cathee station, in the Creek nation, left Eatonton in Putnam county, for said station, consisting of the Rev. Lee Compere, superintendent, his wife and three little children and sister, Jane, a lady somewhat advanced in life, and devoted to the work, and a young man named Simons, who willingly engages as teacher of the school. These go out from the Board of Trustees of the Georgia, Ocmulgee, and Ebenezer Baptist Associations, and under the patronage of the General Board of Missions for the Baptist Denomination in the United States. It is hoped they will be able to open the school by the first of May. By the countenance the Indians give the design, and the apparent interest which the Big Warrior takes in it, it is hoped that it will flourish right off. But it is a much heavier undertaking than was at first conceived. To provide for the settlement of the Institution, in buildings, furniture, attendants, and stock; and then to support this family and school, will require a considerable sum of money; yet let no man's heart fail him for fear.—"The silver and the gold are the Lord's." If we only have hearts to lay to, all will be done easily. It is hoped many of our "honourable women" will emulate the women who ministered to Christ, in his days of earthly necessity, of their substance, and in latter days, like Dorcas, who made coats and garments, &c. and by these the Institution may be clothed in plain style. Already considerable clothing and cloth have been made up and taken on; but should the school be soon, as probably it will be, filled with pupils, more, much more, will be needed. The churches actually engaged, belonging to the United Associations in particular, and all liberal minded and well disposed persons towards this object, through the state, will, it is confidently expected, bring forward their benefactions to this Fall's Associations, or forward them to the Treasurers of said Associations, or the Treasurer or Secretary of the Board of Trustees; so that the Board may be able to carry on the Institution with effect in the beginning, where the most pressure will lie; for after the first years are past, it is hoped the support will be very much raised on the spot.

Wishing all who have, or may contribute to the organization or support of this benevolent design, the blessing that maketh rich, the writer of this

communication takes the liberty to subscribe himself their much obliged servant, and unworthy brother in Christ,

JESSE MERCER,

Sec'y of Board of Trustees, &c.

Powellton, Geo. April 7.

Sabbath Schools.—These institutions, the invaluable blessings accompanying which are beyond the power of human computation, are extending their healthful influence far and wide. We have seen in the Richmond Family Visitor, a notice of four in Virginia, in stations where, two years since, none existed. In all these places, discouraging circumstances seemed to forbid exertion; but efforts were made; and the opinion is expressed, that success is double to what was expected. The change produced in morals is but a part of the good effected;—children have received religious instruction, which is to affect future generations. The pastor of one of these congregations was often heard to remark that the Sabbath School aided his public labours.—Many attended divine worship, who though in his vicinity, had never before made their appearance in the solemn assembly; and he found his own zeal enkindled, by the exertions of the superintendents of these institutions to do good by instructing the poor. It would be well for the pastors of churches occasionally to visit these schools; and by judicious advice to the teachers, and by a friendly address to the juvenile pupils, encourage each in the discharge of duty, or in the work of obtaining literary or religious knowledge. The office of an instructor is honourable in the sight of God; and to him who religiously applies his talent, the plaudit will be finally addressed by the Judge of quick and dead, "Well done good and faithful servant."—*Watchman.*

We have the pleasure to say, that the health of Mrs. Judson is essentially benefitted by her visit to these United States; and that she is expected from the city of Washington in the course of the present month, to embark here on her return to the mission in Burmah.—*ib.*

JOURNAL OF THE BETHEL FLAG.

The committee in attendance at Mr. Gardner's boarding-house, No. 243 Water street, had an interesting meeting there on Friday evening, the 28th of February. The usual exercises were engaged in. The sixth chapter of Daniel was read. The remarks made on it went chiefly to show the true courage of Daniel in honouring his God; the happy influence of frequent and fervent prayer on the temper of his mind, making him to descend from the height of prosperity to the depth of adversity with perfect composure, because God was as near to him in the den of lions as in the palace. In the conclusion, the duty and safety of prayer was insisted upon, and each seaman was particularly urged to be careful that a bible should be found in every ship he sailed in, and to endeavour to have it frequently read, as he knew not how much it might be blest to him, and to his shipmates.

A good looking seaman (second mate of a ship in port) then rose and spoke in a very feeling manner to this effect. "I know not how to be silent on such an occasion; I bless God for such a meeting as this, to see so many of our seamen, some of them my shipmates, so richly enjoying the means of grace. I must declare the goodness of the Lord to my own soul, in bringing me, I trust, from darkness into light.—It was three years ago, on a voyage to Curacao, at sea, without human agency, that blessed book, the Bible, which has now been so earnestly recommended to our attention, was in the reading of it sanctified to my soul. I was awakened to see my true condition, not that I was better than my shipmates, but that I was a guilty sinner, lying at the mercy of a holy God. I betook myself to prayer, beseeching the Lord for mercy, and I trust that like Daniel I have felt its efficacy in a trying hour. I found that precious Saviour who bled and died for me, that I might have hope of eternal life through him. Oh how different has my life been since that gracious change. I give my humble testimony in favour of prayer, and of the grace and mercy of my God.—Oh that I could praise him as I ought!—My dear fellow-seamen, I know all your dangers; I have encountered them often since my youth; I

know your unwillingness to forsake your sins and to turn to God.—I am acquainted with the excuses you offer, for not giving immediate attention to the salvation of your souls; they are just such as I used to make; but what will they avail us at the hour of death. Are they not vain and dangerous now? Blessed be God for such meetings as these, and for the kind concern now manifested for sailors; my heart prays, I trust, continually for a divine blessing on these means of grace, and that the hearts of mariners, may be opened to receive the truth in the love of it. I might say more but my heart is full. I shall never cease to pray for the precious souls of my brother-seamen. Praised be our God for such meetings as these."

The chairman of the committee in addressing this speaker said, "we desire to unite with you in prayer." This son of the ocean cheerfully obeyed, and poured forth his supplications, evidently under the teaching of the spirit, with humility, earnestness, good sense, and devout adoration of the God of all grace. The effect on a pretty large company present, was manifest; and many tears marked, as they fell, the melting of hearts throughout the assembly. The whole of the exercises during the evening were solemn and impressive, evidently felt by all. Indeed there was every reason to believe that the presence of the Lord of glory was given to them, that were met in his name, and that every heart beat in unison to that sweet confession of spiritual joy, "it is good to be here."—*Christian Herald and Seamen's Mag.*

MARINERS' CHURCH.

The number of seamen who attend worship in the Mariners' Church increases, and the prospects of usefulness were never more encouraging. There is a Sabbath School for the children of seamen and others, kept in the Lecture-room of the Church. Measures have been taken to collect a Circulating Library for the use of the school, and some money has been given for that purpose, and a choice selection of a few volumes has been made. To supply all the scholars, a considerable number of books or suitable books, will be thankfully received by the Rev. Messrs. Truair and Chase or Mr. John P. Haven, at this office.—*ib.*

ALBANY MARINE BIBLE SOCIETY.

The third annual meeting of this society was held on the 31st of January. The Rev. Dr. Proudfit preached the annual sermon from Phil. iii. 8. after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$72. In the report we find the following expression—"it is believed there is not a vessel of any description sailing from Albany, without a supply of Bibles."

Bibles have been sent to Buffalo, Detroit, &c. and there has been some attention paid to the canal men.—*ib.*

A floating Chapel has been fitted up at Serampore and Dr. Carey preached the first sermon on board in August last.—*ib.*

Communicated.

A few years since, in the town of — in Mass. a little boy, under seven years old, became so deeply impressed with a sense of his sinful state, that all the paternal caresses that could be lavished upon him, were insufficient to assuage his grief. When entirely alone, he was often found sobbing, and assigned no cause but such as awakened sinners often feel. So high a value did he set upon devotion, that when a praying man visited the family, he enquired, as he rose in the morning, if his uncle had been to prayer; and when answered in the affirmative, perceiving that he had lost the rare opportunity of joining in family prayer, a flood of tears at once gushed from his eyes. At another time, when his father, who had perceived with what eagerness his dear child always listened to religious instruction, asked him, "Which do you love best, me or Elder — and Elder —?" The child with a very expressive and serious countenance answered, "I love them best, because they pray for me and you don't." The father was deeply affected, and could say no more.

THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, MAY 10, 1823.

The Connecticut Baptist Education Society held their annual meeting in this city on Wednesday last, at nine o'clock, A. M. Two young brethren were received to the patronage of the Society. The annual Report, together with the Minutes of the meeting, were ordered to be published in the Christian Secretary, and will be inserted in a future number.

The quarterly meeting of the Missionary Board was held on Thursday in the forenoon. The Reports of the brethren who have been employed the last quarter are very encouraging, and give us reason to hope that in some places where the stated ministry has not been for some time enjoyed, exertions are to be made for the regular support of the gospel.

On Wednesday at 3 o'clock, the brethren in the ministry present, proceeded, by the request of the Baptist church in this city, to examine the qualifications of brother Peter Eason, a man of colour, and on Thursday at 3 o'clock solemnly set him apart to the work of the ministry, by prayer and laying on of hands. Brother Eason has been preaching for some time to the people of colour in this city, and it is expected that he will continue in his useful services among them.

The annual election was held in this city on Wednesday last. A discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, of N. Haven. S. P. Beers, Esq. was elected Speaker of the house of representatives, Nathan Johnson, Esq. and J. P. Hall, Esq. were elected clerks. The Rev. Dr. Flint of this city, was elected chaplain of the senate, and the Rev. Augustus Bolles of Windsor, (representative from that town,) was elected chaplain to the house of representatives.

MISSION AMONG THE OTTAWAS.

The Pittsburgh Recorder contains extracts from the Journal of the missionaries at this station. The Mission Family have been constituted a church. Buildings are erected for mechanics' shops, &c. The prospects of the Mission were flattering at the last dates.

A letter in the Methodist Magazine mentions that a revival of religion had taken place at New Bedford and Fairhaven. "The Lord of the harvest is favouring us with a good ingathering of souls on this District."—"Scituate circuit is also sharing a gracious revival, and one new church has been formed on it. Martha's Vineyard for a year past has had a good work. In many of the stations, and on several of the circuits, there is evidently a rising in Zion, and the prospect is of a more general out-pouring of the Spirit of God."

Some communications have been received, which will be attended to in our next.

MARRIED.

At Middletown, Mr. Preston Smith, of Springfield, Mass. to Miss Eliza C. Forbes. Mr. Henry Smith, to Miss Eunice M. Ives. At New Haven, Mr. William B. Putnam, to Miss Florida Knapp. At Orange, Mr. Brigham Smith, of Cornish, N. H. to Miss Sarah Seger. At Simsbury, Jonathan Pettibone, Jun. Esq. to Miss Fanny R. Phelps. At Woodbridge, Mr. Amadeus Russell, to Miss Rebecca Thomas. At Middlebury, Vt. Nehemiah Hubbard, Esq. of Middletown, Conn. to Mrs. Hannah Latimer. At New Hartford, Mr. Noyes Baldwin, to Miss Deborah Spencer.

DIED.

At Middletown, Mrs. Priscilla Lucas, aged 79 years. Mrs. Mercy Wetmore, aged 37.

At Albany, on the 2d inst. after a severe illness, Hon. Joseph Spencer, of Rochester, N. Y. a member of the Senate of that State, aged 32 years, son of Isaac Spencer, Esq. Treasurer of this State.

On board the ship Plough Boy, in the Pacific ocean, Aug. 15, 1822, Mr. Lyman Pratt, aged 22 years, of Saybrook (Essex.) He was much esteemed by friends and acquaintances, and died lamented by all who knew him.

At Hartland, on the 19th ult. of the apoplexy, the Rev. Aaron Church, in the 78th year of his age, and 50th of his ministry. His natural affability, joined with the christian virtues, rendered him highly respected and beloved. He died expressing a firm confidence in the merits of the Saviour.

[We think that our patrons who are fond of perusing good poetry, will be much gratified by the following touching strains.]

From the Christian Herald.

JUDAH'S LOSS.

How oft, when musing on the changeful past,
Does busy recollection call to mind,
A thousand bright, and pleasing, airy forms,
Which sport us as they flit along, like scenes,
Which fancy opens in the midnight dream.
How oft do we recall the countless joys
Of early years, made doubly sweet by those,
Whose names are graven deeply on our hearts,
But who themselves sleep low and silently.
Last time we heard the converse of our friends,
In the sad parting hour, who can forget?
Who would forget, though recollection be
A pang.

There is an hour
More serious than all others; when the soul
Looks fearfully upon that dark abyss,
O'er which so soon she is to wing her way,
And in that tim'rous, peerless flight, to seek
Her last abode.

The death-bed is a pulpit,
From which we all must preach. Oft has it spoke
Its terrors to the stoutest hearts. It speaks;
Nor speaks it aught but truth. 'Twould ill beseem
Hypocrisy to lurk in such a place.
The death-bed is an inn, where all must lodge.
Though long and wearisome may be our way,
Our journey here must end. * * * *
Once in a dreamy vision of the night
I thought I stood beside the bed of death,
And he who lay thereon, was much beloved.
He had dispensed the messages of grace
To guilty men, pointing the wayward soul
To heaven. He lived a blameless life—a life
Of piety, devoted to the cause
Of his beloved Master—heeded not
The voice of bitter scorn—regarded not
The frowns and mockings of a scowling world.
He sought to know his duty, and when known,
His duty to perform. He deeply felt
For hapless millions of our guilty race,
Who, in unbroken ranks, from Judah's lands
Are rushing to the world of woe. How calm
That day to him, above all other days!
The sun had sunk just to the verge of even,
And still was shedding on the verdant fields,
His mellow lustre. Short had been his course,
Athwart the heavens—emblem of his, who now
Cast his last look upon his setting beams.
His pilgrimage on earth was short, and wearisome
His sojourn in this vale of woes and tears.
Painful it is to leave our native land,
Place of our birth, to sunder, from our hearts,
Those silken chords, which bind us to our homes,
And bid our country and our friends beloved,
Farewell for ever. Yet he had left his friends,
And home, and all that's dear, to seek a land
Of strangers—a far-famed city, which once
Was Judah's boast; where oft the choral hymns
Of morn and evening sacrifice had rung
From sweetest harps, by Zion's daughters swept.
He climbed the rugged steep of Calvary,
And where was hung the ransom of a world,
He wide unfurled the banner of the Cross.
He took the Gospel trumpet, and there blew
A blast not long, nor loud. Mount Zion heard.
Although not long, nor loud, the joyful sound
Pealed o'er the gladdened hills of Palestine,
And Judah's daughter, by the dark, blue wave
Of Babel's river, caught the enrapturing note,
And snatched her harp from off the willow's branch.
She ceased to weep when she remembered Zion.
She sang a sweeter song than ever rung,
From angel's harp, or Seraph's golden lyre.
The waves conveyed the sound, the enchanting sound
To Babel's lonely, mouldering towers. The owl,
That hooted there, quick ceased her hollow wail;
The famished jackall turned to hear the strain;
The tumbling ruins, and far distant hills
Re-echoed back the praise. * * * *

* * * * 'Tis the third watch of night.
All now is still—the midnight anthem hushed,
The Nile rolled dark and heavy on that night,
And Alexandria seemed involved in gloom.
Nought could be heard, except the whizzing bat,
And the hoarse watch-cry of the Turkish soldier.
Though all was dark without, there was a place,
Bright with celestial glory. 'Twas the verge
Of heaven. The chamber of the dying saint,
The martyr of the Cross—how calm—serene!
How swift and solemn was that passing hour!
Fast by his side his sole companion sat:
He who had been companion of his toils,
How sweet their minutes rolled. Oft they looked back,
Upon the past with pure delight—and up
With joy, to the great Fount of Love—the Source
Of all their blessings, and with humble hearts,
And holy gratitude, for every boon,
Gave thanks. How arduous, how rich, how short
Had been his labours, o'er whose peaceful couch,
In tearful sorrow his associate bent.
Zion rejoiced, and Judah was made glad.

By the high joyful embassy he bore,
From Judah's king to long lost Israel.
Now was his mission ended, and the time,
Of his departure, was at hand; for heaven
Sent the summons—his sovereign called him home.
Pale grew his cheek, and icy was his arm.
They talked of parting soon. Oh! it was hard
To part. Around their hearts a thousand chords
Of tenderest love were interwoven.
Long time had they been more than bosom friends.
Lone brothers were they in a stranger's land.
'Twas hard to part. They talked of meeting soon
Upon that shore, where love eternal reigns;
And where is wiped the mourner's tear; and hushed
The sufferer's sigh; where weary pilgrims rest,
And where the prisoner is at peace. Oh! yes;
They talked of meeting soon. 'Twas then their souls,
By one extatic impulse, seemed borne away,
To the third heavens, and even now seemed to join,
With that celestial company of saints,
And angels, who adore around the throne
Of God. Oh! how unearthly was his transport,
And over death how signal was his triumph.
In his calm eye joy undissembled beamed
And hope seraphic lighted up his features,
While in his peaceful breast 'twas all but heaven.
Death sped his fatal dart. His soul released
From its frail tenement, left a mourning world,
And with attending angels winged his flight
To heaven. * * * *
Heard you that sigh? It was the mourner's sigh.
Saw you that tear? It was the mourner's tear.
Well mayest thou mourn, Jerusalem; for lost
To thee, and Judah's race—to Israel lost
Is he, who bore thee, graven on his heart.
Thou little knowest how well he loved thy sons,
And ye, oh! Salem's daughters! well may strike
That solemn dirge, and turn your joy to grief;
For who shall feel for you, as PARSONS felt.

G.

SUMMARY.

On Tuesday afternoon, the children belonging to the Union Sunday Schools, amounting to between two and three thousand, assembled in the Park, and walked in procession, to the Circus, in Broadway, where an address was delivered to them, on the importance of education, and a correct understanding of the Holy Scriptures.—The teachers of each class marched at the head of their little charges, with suitable banners, beautifully wrought in needle work, or painted, with appropriate inscriptions, borne by the scholars, with medals of merit, and badges of distinction. Those who received premiums of Bibles for their good conduct, carried them under their arms. The whole presented a most interesting scene.—*E. Post.*

From the N. Y. Daily Advertiser.

Items from the latest London papers.

A plot has been discovered at Paris. Gen. Piat and several others have been arrested.

The British House of Commons adjourned on the 27th of March, to April 10.

Holland has again been visited by a tremendous flood, in consequence of many of the dykes giving way. In some of the villages nothing was to be seen but the steeples of the churches.

It is stated that the French army will pass the Bidassoa about the middle of April.

The Duke of Belluno, Minister of War, passed through Tours on the 28th of March, to join the French army.

M. Villele, Prime Minister of France, had not resigned on the 30th of March, from which it is inferred that the war with Spain will be hastened.

Some of the firmest supporters of the army of the Faith in Spain have resolved to turn their arms against French invaders.

A severe shock of an earthquake was felt at Palermo on the 5th of March—21 persons were killed and 125 wounded. Several churches and houses were destroyed.

The packet Albert, which plied between Liverpool and Dublin, was lost the latter part of March, nine miles from Holyhead. Only 26 out of 160 persons were saved.

A corps of Royalists were surprised on the 6th March, at Estesa de Serre, by militiamen of Cervera; several were killed, and the remainder dispersed.

The Royalist, Paul Miralles, was at a place called Comme de Laurens, within seven leagues of the sea, and had levied money and provisions in the neighbouring villages. A detachment of 400 Constitutionalists had been sent against him, but were repulsed with loss.

The Trappist, with 200 men, was raising recruits in Guipuzcoa. O'Donnell was at Val Carlos, organizing a battalion of Royalists. The Constitutionalists still held Lambieres, a mountain of Navarre. A party of forty of the Constitutional cavalry, attacked a party of one hundred and fifty Royalists going to France, and cut them to pieces, not one having escaped.

The Duke of Angoulême is said to have arrived at the head quarters of the French army of the Eastern Pyrenees, on the 22d March.

Gen. Mina was at Perthus on the 18th of March. A convention has been published between Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Sardinia, for withdrawing the Austrian troops from the Sardinian country.

Accounts from St. Petersburg, of the 8th of March, mention that there was an earthquake in the island of

Alund, on the 30th of January. The day was gloomy, and considerable snow fell.

There was a rumour in the Dutch Journals, that Russia had resolved to send three divisions of forty thousand men each, into France, to be quartered there during the invasion of Spain by France.

It is mentioned that Great Britain advises Spain to remain firm.

Sweden and Denmark have received notes from the Russian ministers, demanding to know what part they intend to take in case of a war between France and Spain.

The Liverpool Advertiser of the 5th of April, states that the intelligence of the week from that quarter on which all interest and expectation are fixed, is not of the decided character which was expected. The London papers state, that the French army have actually broken up their posts, and are in full march into the hostile territory.

The king of Spain left Madrid on the 20th of March for Seville, under an escort of 6000 men.

London, April 2.

The state of Ireland becomes appalling.—Never did the contending factions which divide that unhappy country rage more furiously than at the present moment.

Odessa, March 9.

A ship has arrived here which left Constantinople on the 28th of February. Letters from that city affirm that the Porte has acceded to the proposals brought by Lord Strangford. There is a report in circulation, that an amnesty for the Greeks is one of the articles; but the Greeks, probably recollecting the amnesty of Chios, say they had not asked for any, and hoped soon to have obtained it for themselves.

Paris, March 30.

Several inhabitants of Lyons, yesterday waited on M. Manuel, to present him with the civic crown from that city. After accepting the present, M. Manuel attended a banquet of more than 40 persons, inhabitants of Lyons, living in Paris.

It is said that the Italian general Pino, has arrived in Catalonia, to join the Constitutionalists. He served with distinction under Napoleon.

VIENNA, March 12.—The news of the maintenance of an absolute neutrality on the part of Austria has raised the public funds in our Exchange.

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FOR THE CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

The following named persons are Agents for the distribution of the Christian Secretary, and are likewise authorised to receive money for the same.—All persons receiving papers from such agents, are requested to pay their subscriptions to them.

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ETNA INSURANCE COMPANY

WILL receive proposals for Insurance against loss or damage by fire, every day in the week (except Sunday) at their office in Morgan's Exchange Coffee-house, State Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

DANIEL ST. JOHN, Esq. of said Hartford, is appointed Surveyor. His acts in that capacity will be recognized as the acts of the Company.

THOMAS K. BRACE, President.

ISAAC PERKINS, Secretary.

Hartford, Feb. 16, 1822.